

Message Text

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12

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PM-04 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 CIAE-00 INR-07

NSAE-00 MC-02 L-03 EB-07 OMB-01 IGA-02 AID-05 /064 W

----- 047362

R 290610Z DEC 75

FM AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4359

INFO SECDEF WASHDC//ISA//

JCS WASHDC

USCINCEUR//ECJ4/7-SAME//

DA WASHDC

CDR MICOM RSA AL//AMCPM-KMS//

C O N F I D E N T I A L KUWAIT 5410

E.O. 11652 GDS

TAGS: MASS, KU

SUBJ: KUWAIT IHAWK PROGRAM

REF: A. KUWAIT 5230 DTG 160817Z DEC 75

B. KUWAIT 2978 DTG 160610Z JUL 75 (NOTAL)

C. DA 301945Z JUL 75 (NOTAL)

D. KUWAIT 4886 DTG 220945Z NOV 75 (NOTAL)

1. DOD REP ATTENDED LENGTHY MEETINGS 22 AND 23 DEC 75 WITH COL SAYEGH, (ADCS/LOG AND PERSONAL ADVISOR TO MINDEF) AND REPRESENTATIVES OF KUWAIT AIR FORCE, AIR DEFENSE FORCE AND MOD BUDGET OFFICE TO REVIEW STATUS OF IHAWK AND A4 PROGRAM COSTS. GOK OFFICIALS MOST CONCERNED OVER COST ESCALATION WHICH, BY THEIR FIGURES, NOW APPROACHING US DOL 100 MILLION.

2. MOD REPS MADE CLEAR MOD HAS SEVERE BUDGET PROBLEMS AND THAT COST INCREASES WILL BE EMBARRASSING PERSONALLY TO MINDEF, WHO WILL HAVE TO JUSTIFY/EXPLAIN TO COUNCIL OF MINISTERS. THIS WILL BE DIFFICULT. AMOUNT WHICH CAN BE ABSORBED BY REPROGRAMMING WITHIN BUDGET IS UNKNOWN, BUT CLEARLY NOT ENOUGH TO COVER COST ESCALATION.

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3. IT WAS EMPHASIZED THAT FMS CASE UCY WILL GET A THOROUGH REVIEW

AND, PROBABLY, BE TRIMMED SIGNIFICANTLY IN ATTEMPT TO KEEP BUDGET DEFICIT WITHIN MANAGEABLE (TO MINDEF) FIGURES. MOD REPS DISTURBED, IN PARTICULAR, ABOUT US DOLS 47 MILLION FOR SERVICES. STRONG COMPLAINT ALSO MADE RE NINE DAYS ALLOWED FROM PRESENTATION TO EXPIRATION OF CASES UCY AND UCQ. ON CASE UCY, GOK OFFICIALS SAID THEY DESIRE HAVE SERVICES IN SEPARATE CASE FROM EQUIPMENT.

4. FYI: ON IHAWK PROGRAM, MOD BUDGET PREPARED LAST YEAR USING COSTS FROM JUL 74 RATHEON PROPOSAL AS ESTIMATE. BUDGET PREPARED WITH 10 PERCENT ADDED TO THESE FIGURES. END FYI.
STOLTZFUS

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: MILITARY ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 29 DEC 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: johnsorg
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975KUWAIT05410
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750448-0605
From: KUWAIT
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t1975128/aaaaagxm.tel
Line Count: 72
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION NEA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 75 KUWAIT 5230, 75 KUWAIT 2978, 75 KUWAIT 4886
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: johnsorg
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 13 AUG 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <13 AUG 2003 by CunninFX>; APPROVED <02 DEC 2003 by johnsorg>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
06 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: KUWAIT IHAWK PROGRAM
TAGS: MASS, KU
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006